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PATENT

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Soren Stammers et al.

Examiner: Chuck O. Kendall

Serial No.: 09/478624

Group Art Unit: 2122

Filed: January 5, 2000

Docket No.: 1433.001US1

Title: PROCESSING APPARATUS AND METHOD

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111** RECEIVED

FEB 17 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Technology Center 2100

This responds to the Office Action mailed on October 6, 2003. Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

This response is accompanied by a Petition, as well as the appropriate fee, to obtain a one-month extension of the period for responding to the Office Action, thereby moving the deadline for response from January 6, 2004, to February 6, 2004.